




# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/624,718	07/25/2000	Shinichi Yoshimura	112857-062	6804
29175	7590	10/20/2004	EXAMINER	
BELL, BOYD & LLOYD, LLC P. O. BOX 1135 CHICAGO, IL 60690-1135			KAO, CHIH CHENG G	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2882	
DATE MAILED: 10/20/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action**

<b>Application No.</b> 09/624,718	<b>Applicant(s)</b> YOSHIMURA, SHINICHI	
<b>Examiner</b> Chih-Cheng Glen Kao	<b>Art Unit</b> 2882	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 04 October 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

**PERIOD FOR REPLY** [check either a) or b)]

- a)  The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b)  The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

- 1.  A Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
- 2.  The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
  - (a)  they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
  - (b)  they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
  - (c)  they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
  - (d)  they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

- 3.  Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): See Continuation Sheet.
- 4.  Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
- 5.  The a)  affidavit, b)  exhibit, or c)  request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.
- 6.  The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
- 7.  For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a)  will not be entered or b)  will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

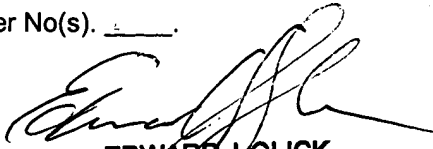
Claim(s) allowed: 1-5 and 13-15.

Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim(s) rejected: 6-12.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_

- 8.  The drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is a)  approved or b)  disapproved by the Examiner.
- 9.  Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 10.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

  
EDWARD J. GLICK  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Continuation of 3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): The rejections of claims 1-5 and 13-15 under 35 USC 102(b) as being unpatentable over Miyawaki et al. (US Patent 5726439) have been withdrawn in light of Applicant's argument with regards to 35 USC 112, sixth paragraph, and means-plus-function language.

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:

Regarding claims 6-10, Applicant argues that the circuit of Miyawaki does not "adjust" the timing of the outputs. The Examiner disagrees, since generating timing pulses is a process of adjusting the pulse. Applicant states that in order for something to be adjusted (i.e., timing), it has to exist in the first place. The timing pulses of Miyawaki do exist in the first place. For example, when the pulse is in an on-state, it exists. When the pulse is in an off-state, it exists as well. Adjustments occur when the pulse is adjusted from an off-state to an on-state and vice versa. Therefore, Miyawaki discloses a timing adjustment step of adjusting a timing as recited in claim 6.

Regarding claims 11 and 12 and in response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., "timing adjustment means for adjusting a timing at which the result of the operation is output for each of said plurality of elements from said outputting units, said timing adjustment means using a control signal other than the clear signal or the transfer signal in the timing adjustment") are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims.